

MUSTANG DAILY

MARCH 6, 1996

WEDNESDAY

VOLUME LX, No. 89

Cal Poly cyclists wheel in at first place

By Jessica Yamada
Daily Staff Writer

Cal Poly's Wheelmen are doing wheelies over their finish in the annual Cal Poly Classic cycling competition on campus last weekend.

The performance helped move the team from fourth to first place in overall conference standing.

About 220 cyclists from 15 colleges throughout California came to compete in the three event competition hosted by Cal Poly.

"We've always been one of the best teams in the nation," said Mike Sallaberry, president of the Wheelmen Cycling Club. "For the last four years we've been conference champions."

Cal Poly got off to a great start by winning the hill climb on Saturday morning by over a 100 point margin. The course was about six miles long and started at Old Creek Road and ended near Highway 46.

For the team time trial, Cal Poly came in second, behind Stanford. In this event, teams of four were sent at different intervals, and they tried to go from Cuesta College to Turri Road in the fastest time.

The Criterium — the big race on Sunday — was what pushed Cal Poly to the top.

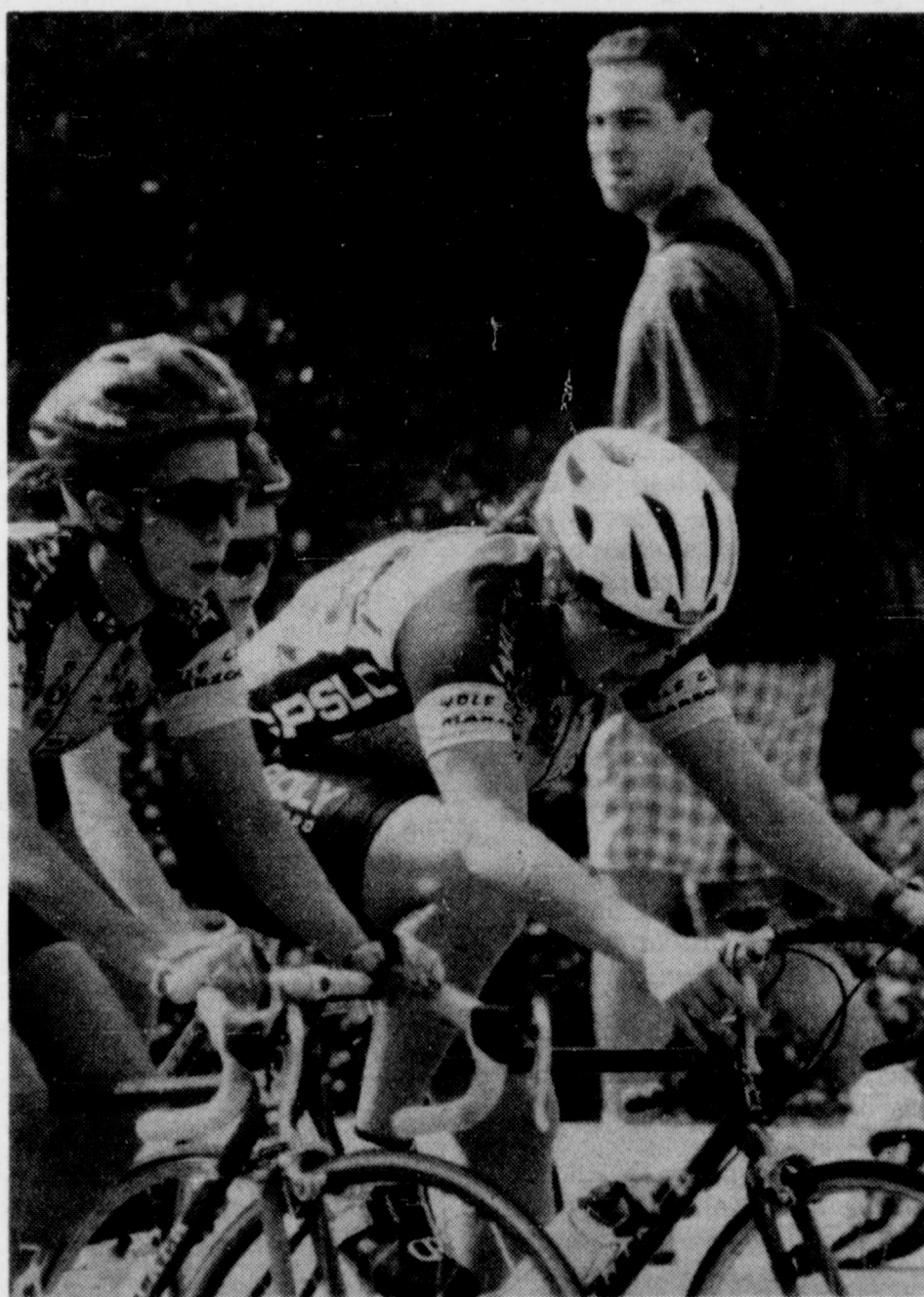
Cal Poly won five of the six races that day, which made it the team's best Criterium this year, said Randy Warren, the team's adviser.

"It's really unusual to have such success in the Criterium," Warren said.

Sallaberry said the Criterium race is a short course with many laps.

"It's high speed, sharp corners, with lots of sprints," Sallaberry said. "This year was unusual in that there were a lot of crashes."

The fastest corner was also the most narrow due to construction for the Performing Arts Center, Sallaberry said.



The Cal Poly Wheelmen were on a roll at the Cal Poly Classic cycling competition last weekend — their performance there propelled them to first place in overall conference standing / Daily photo by Dawn Kalmar

"In the Men's A race, 50 percent (of the riders) went down; it was basically survival out there," he said.

Philosophy junior Alex Smith said although he likes the competition aspect the best, the danger adds adventure to the sport.

"When you're coming into a curve at 38 mph, it's really scary to be in a pack because you never know what they're going to do. They're kind of like

downtown L.A. drivers," Smith said.

Smith was pleased at how the weekend went. He placed first in the Criterium in the Men's A category, second in the team time trial and third in the hill climb.

"I'm glad it all came together for me," Smith said.

Warren said competing on a home course made a difference.

"We were really prepared for See **WHEELMEN** page 3

Dole sitting pretty in Republican race after 8-state sweep

By John King
Associated Press

Sen. Bob Dole took a commanding lead in the Republican presidential race Tuesday with an eight-state primary sweep against fast-fading Pat Buchanan and a shrinking field of challengers.

"I always felt in my heart it was going to happen, but you never know until the people vote," Dole said in an interview, confident now that his third bid for the Republican nomination would be successful.

An ecstatic Dole urged Republicans to rally around him and turn their fire at President Clinton.

"I think it is a big, big boost," the Senate majority leader said, predicting he would handily win New York's primary on Thursday and carry momentum into next week's "Super Tuesday" contests in Texas, Florida and five other states.

"I think we are in a very strong position to win the nomination," he said, and for once there was no voice in dissent.

Dole won primaries in Georgia, Vermont, Connecticut, Maryland, Maine and Massachusetts and seemed headed for a "Junior Tuesday" sweep

when returns were counted in Colorado and Rhode Island.

All told, the day's booty represented more than a quarter of the 996 delegates needed to clinch nomination — with another 93 up for grabs in New York and 362 in next week's "Super Tuesday" contests in Florida, Texas and five other states.

Convinced Dole's lead was insurmountable, Indiana Sen. Dick Lugar was preparing to quit the chase. He told associates he would bow out Wednesday. It was another dismal night for former Tennessee Gov. Lamar Alexander, and a senior campaign aide told at least two senior Republican officials Tuesday night that Alexander was likely to quit, too.

Buchanan vowed to fight all the way to the August Republican convention, but acknowledged, "It's an uphill battle everywhere."

Also in for a bad night was multimillionaire publisher Steve Forbes, who was already focusing on the Thursday showdown in New York. "We can win in New York and nationwide," he said, ignoring Dole's lead in the state — and the momentum likely to come from Tuesday.

See **RACE** page 5

Safe-Ride offers SLO a sober way to get home

By Jennifer Cornelius
Daily Staff Writer

It's late Friday night and you're at a party halfway across town, in no condition to drive home.

Or, you're studying late at the library and don't feel it's safe to walk home alone.

You may think your only option is to drive home drunk or walk home alone, but the Safe Ride program offers you another option.

The program is conducted through Ride-On Transportation, a nonprofit organization in San Luis Obispo. It offers students and community members a ride home from anywhere in San Luis Obispo.

"It's really nice for people who use it," said Mike Montoya, the ASI Executive Staff member in charge of the program on campus. "It's reliable, convenient — you just can't beat it."

The majority of people who use it are students, he said. Many clubs, fraternities and sororities have bought their members cards so they are able to use the vans to get home safely.

Safe Ride cards are available at the Rec Center ticket office to Cal Poly students for \$2. This provides them with unlimited rides home throughout the year.

This is a great bargain, Montoya said, because it costs Ride-On \$15 a person to operate. ASI buys the tickets for \$4, then sells them to students for \$2.

The shuttle is available Thursday through Saturday nights from 11 p.m. to 3 a.m. by calling 459-3616; this connects callers directly to a Safe Ride van.

And Safe Ride doesn't limit their services to just rides home. They will take you to and from other places, but that will cost \$4, not \$2.

Safe-Ride is also used for late-night and rainy day pickup, but the majority of students who use the service have been drinking and are looking for a safe way home.

Use of the van in October 1994 was around 50 people per month, but increased to 250 people per month in just one year. Now they are up to about 300 students per month, which is due to more advertising and in-

See **SAFE-RIDE** page 3

It's EZ — file your taxes by phone

By Rebecca Nordquist
Daily Staff Writer

If the tax blues have you in a rut this year, think about this — you can file your 1995 taxes with a toll free phone call thanks to the IRS.

This tax season, more than 23 million Americans who normally file a 1040-EZ form for their federal income taxes have the opportunity to file their tax returns through an electronic filing system called Telefile.

"I think it's a good idea for simple returns," said Dennis Williams, a certified public accountant who teaches classes at Cal Poly.

Williams said if you filed with a 1040-EZ form last year, the IRS automatically sends the Telefile packet in the mail.

"It not only saves your time, but it also eliminates work for the IRS," he said.

Qualified taxpayers who file a 1040-EZ form will receive special Telefile instructions and a Personal Identification Number along with the regular tax booklet.

It takes three to four weeks to receive your refund check through Telefile. And the same deadline of April 15 applies.

"Evidently, it's pretty simple to use," Williams said. "You call up and enter all of your information, and they tell you the amount of the refund."

There are no forms or W-2s to send in, no envelopes or stamps, and the phone call (available in Spanish or English) takes only six to 10 minutes. This is a 24-hour service, so taxes can be filed

at any time.

"Filing taxes does not get much easier than this," said IRS Commissioner Margaret Milner Richardson. "Telefile will not only save taxpayers time and trouble, but will also make the IRS more efficient."

In order to be eligible for Telefile, taxpayers must: be single with no dependents, have taxable income less than \$50,000, have filed a 1040-EZ

form previously, live at the same address as last year and receive the Telefile information in the mail.

"I would really recommend students use this service," Williams said. "The 1040-EZ is not difficult, but anything to speed up the process would be an advantage."

OPINION

Peggy Curtain returns to the Opinion page and gives the vertically-challenged people out there some advice.
See page 4

SPORTS

Men's basketball head coach Jeff Schneider and guard Ben Larson honored by American West Conference.
See page 8

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INSIDE TODAY'S
MUSTANG DAILY

TOP
OF
THE**AGENDA**
WednesdayMarch
6

1 day left in winter quarter

TODAY'S WEATHER: mostly sunny**TOMORROW'S WEATHER:** mostly sunny

Today's high/low: 70s/40s Tomorrow's high/low: 70s/40s

Absentee Ballots are available until March 19. Contact the Election's Division 1 at 14 Monterey St. Suite A to have your sample ballot and absentee ballot sent to your residence. For more information, call 781-5228.

Today

SAM's hiking boot sale is taking place on Dexter Lawn from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

'Agriview' organizational meeting is taking place at 7 a.m. in building 8, room 123. Anyone interested in participating can attend.

Cal Poly WriterSpeak presents "An Evening of Poetry, Fiction and Dance" at 7 p.m. in the Cal Poly Theatre. Admission is free.

Upcoming

"26 Hours of Science and Technology in Agriculture" is taking place March 7-8. Anyone interested in helping can call 756-2627.

"Introduction to Aikido Techniques and Principles" will be offered by Safe-SLO Nonprofit Corporation on four Thursday evenings beginning March 7 at 6 p.m. Call 995-1224 or 544-5425 for more information.

Agenda Items: c/o Natasha Collins, Graphic Arts 226, Cal Poly 93407
Phone: 756-1796 Fax: 756-6784

Please submit information at least three days prior to the event
Due to the excessive demand, not all items submitted to the Agenda section will be printed.
Agenda information will be printed exactly as it is received (i.e. spelling, times and dates).

CSULink provides access to library resources at 5 CSUs

By Michelle Castillo
Daily Staff Writer

Just when you thought you'd mastered the computer resource tools at the library, up pops a new reference catalog on the terminals.

The pilot project, called CSULink, was developed for library users to share the resources of five CSU campus' on-line catalogs, said Ilene Rockman, interim dean of the Robert E. Kennedy Library.

"It's a tremendous resource," Rockman said. "It provides the user access to a collective catalog from home, the library, a residence hall or faculty office."

According to a press release, the project includes the CSU libraries at Pomona, San Diego, San Jose, Hayward and San Luis Obispo.

Rockman said a unique feature is the ability of the new service to provide information on: whether the material is checked out, if the sought-out material is on order, the summary holdings (location of the material in the library), and a synopsis of the publication — all updated in real time.

"Collectively, between the five campuses, the catalog includes approximately 4 million items, of which 213,000 are unique to our campus," Rockman said.

The project is in its first phase, which Rockman described solely as "the knowledge that the material exists."

The second phase is in the planning stage, she said. When

implemented, this will allow the user to initiate a request for the material directly through the computer. Rockman said phase two is still a few years away.

The function of CSULink is similar to Melvyl, noted the press release, which links the catalogs of all the University of California campuses.

"But Melvyl is not as user-friendly," Rockman said. "Also, records on CSULink are geared toward the undergraduate and CSU curriculum."

CSULink does not allow the user to print out text, she said, so one must still initiate the steps to obtain the materials.

Based on the current system, people who want to obtain materials from another library have two options, said Paul Adalian, head of the Reference Department.

"A student can go home over the weekend and check out a book at the nearest (university) library," he said. "Or, if they don't travel, they can fill out an interlibrary loan card."

CSULink simply provides an assurance for the student that the delivery time will be quicker because the material is coming from a CSU campus instead of a UC campus, Adalian said.

However, Reference Librarian Wayne Montgomery said CSULink does something that the student doesn't need.

"A student learns that interlibrary loan works without having to know where it is," he said. "Therefore, (CSULink) loses its value."

It's the job of the interlibrary loan staff to locate the requested material, Montgomery explained. The student does not have to indicate its location on the loan card.

"What they're saying is true in one sense," said Adalian, responding to Montgomery's comments. "But you get a quicker response time (with CSULink)."

Further, Montgomery said that based on his experience in working with the students, unless the CSU library where the material is located is in the student's home town, the student is not likely to go out of the way to get it.

Montgomery said he doesn't see the value of the resource.

"Melvyl has a much larger database with advanced research materials."

Although CSULink was implemented in the fall, Montgomery said the reference staff hasn't experienced much use of it, nor has the reference staff been formally trained on the new system.

Adalian said he was surprised to learn of the reference librarian's comments.

"My assumption was that any reference librarian could tell you about CSULink," Adalian said.

Rockman said she wants people to know that Montgomery's feelings about the new system is not a value judgment on the resource tool, nor is it the collective opinion of the library.

"The press release was part of a program to promote awareness of the source and educate library users," she said.

Rockman said she is interested in feedback from the users: is CSULink beneficial, easy to use and a timesaver?

Now, it's up to the students, staff, faculty and administration to decide.

Ricochet. The Wireless Connection at Cal Poly.

"Check out this wireless modem that works on the Ricochet campus network."

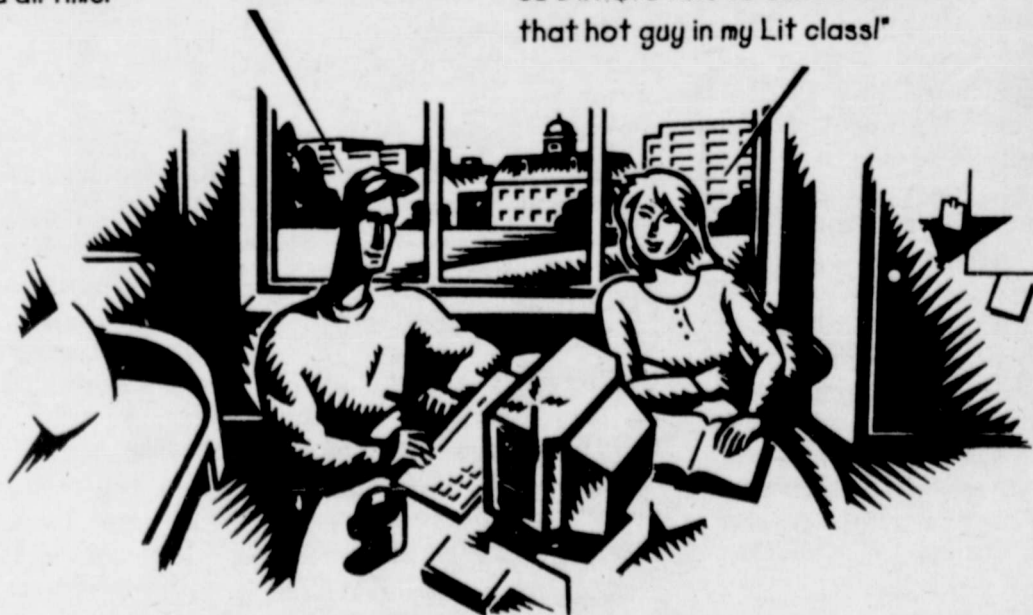
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SAFE-RIDE: Donations needed to keep prices low

From page 1
volvement with ASI.

This has also helped contribute to the decrease in the number of DUIs in San Luis Obispo, said Mark Shaffer, director of Ride-On Transportation.

Because Ride-On is a non-profit organization, it loses money each year, but students benefit with a safe way home.

"We depend tremendously on donations," Shaffer said.

Ride-On costs \$12,000 a year to operate, he said, and only 10 percent of that comes from fairs. The remaining money must come from other sources.

"We are working really hard to get sponsors," Shaffer said.

Eight bars in San Luis Obispo pay \$180 a year to get 180 vouchers to give to customers

they feel have had too much to drink, he said.

"(The bars) were instrumental in getting the program going," Shaffer said, but there is still a need for other sponsors.

Currently, the program is looking into getting corporate beer sponsors, and is always hoping some of the clubs that use the program will donate money.

The idea to get Cal Poly students involved began when some students had to implement a taxi service for a business project. They contacted Ride-On Transportation hoping they could provide the services, which developed into Safe-Ride. The program was started as a pilot program in December 1994 and kicked off on New Year's Eve.

WHEELMEN: Team gears up for championships

From page 1
the race and the specific events and spent a lot of time with our new riders," Warren said.

The team is successful, Sallaberry said, because of the dedication of the members and their love for the sport.

"We don't do it for the prizes, we do it for the honors," he said.

The team hopes to do as well in the conference championships at Chico State University in

May, Sallaberry said, and then in the National Collegiate Road Championships in June.

This year the national competition will be held in downtown San Luis Obispo and is expected to attract more than 20,000 spectators, said journalism junior Brandt Furgerson, who is working on the event.

About 300 men and women from more than 30 universities may participate, he said.

Japanese exchange students test out a Cal Poly education

By Jessica Yamada
Daily Staff Writer

Is Cal Poly more rigorous than schools in Japan?

Schools in Japan are reputed to have intense academic curriculums that put tremendous pressure on students.

However, Japanese exchange students on campus said they are studying more at Cal Poly than they ever did at Japanese universities.

"They study hard," 28-year-old Hiroshi Motohashi said about Cal Poly students. "Japanese college students don't study a lot, only before final exams."

Delmar Dingus, a soil science professor and the director of the International Agriculture Development Program, said academics in Japan are emphasized in elementary, junior high and high schools.

He said once a student in Japan passes a college entrance exam, it's downhill from there.

"When they get in, they are virtually guaranteed to graduate," Dingus said. "University time is for growing socially and emotionally."

Motohashi and six other men ages 22 to 28 are studying at Cal Poly for six weeks as part of a two-year internship program sponsored by the Japanese Agriculture Exchange Council in Seattle.

"The purpose of the program is to provide academic and cultural studies for Cal Poly and international students," Dingus said.

The students, who are living with local families, are enrolled in four courses at Cal Poly: English conversation, farm management, fruit production

"When they get in, they are virtually guaranteed to graduate."

Delmar Dingus
Soil science professor

and computers.

They also have the option to take up to two other courses of their choice.

Motohashi said he liked Cal Poly because of the land area available for agriculture students to experiment with and the facilities available to get hands-on experience.

"We just don't have enough land in Japan," Motohashi said.

The students are also helping other Cal Poly students who are studying the Japanese language.

Yoshiko Tachibana, a Japanese language instructor, said the Japanese students come to her class three times a week to help her students in conversation and homework.

One of Tachibana's students, electrical engineering senior Leonard Pimentel, said he enjoys their help.

"It has been beneficial to work on pronunciation. You also get to learn their train of thought and how they communicate," Pimentel said.

Tachibana said it gives the students a chance to interact with each other and to talk about cultural differences.

Before coming to Cal Poly, the students worked on various farms in the Western United States. These experiences, plus

their time at Cal Poly, may prove to be beneficial for them.

Asgro, a multimillion-dollar seed distributor, wants to hire one of the Japanese students to be its representative in Japan, Dingus said.

"They want to hire someone who has experience in American agriculture and knows English or Spanish," Dingus said.

When they return to Japan, many of the students are planning to work in international farming and be involved in trading ventures with the United States.

Some Cal Poly students also learned about agriculture in a foreign land.

Soil science senior Ben De Liema spent three months in Japan living with a family who grew persimmons, vegetables and rice.

"It was so amazing," De Liema said. "I was in rural Japan living with this family I never met before. My experience was so positive; it really changed my life."

De Liema said he gained a new perspective of agriculture and learned to appreciate the intimate relationship between the land and the farming families and how methods are passed on to the children.

Mustang Daily



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COLUMN

Deception as a fine art

by Kurt Horner

Reporters love to exaggerate. It helps the newsmen sell papers or increase ratings. But it also enables them to advance an agenda, if they desire to do so. The media claim to be unbiased, but in reality a person's bias is reflected in anything they write, no matter how much they try otherwise.

The main problem with media bias is not the bias itself. Partisan newspapers used to be very common, and I see no problem with a paper or TV station reporting in a biased manner so long as they *openly declare* their bias. But most news providers make false claims of objectivity. When papers write biased material or leave out important information and then claim objectivity, they deceive the public.

I present below some of my favorite media distortion tactics:

Story splicing

If you compare newspapers, you will often find papers (usually in big cities) that cut up AP and wire reports to "make room for other items." These convenient edits often remove critical information that suits a political bias (usually left-wing). The excuse of space requirements is bogus. Do they really expect us to believe they cut out crucial paragraphs of a major story to keep the blurb on page A13 about a capsized boat in Indonesia?

The label game

Here's a short list of often used media adjectives: "extremist" — A euphemism for people who adhere to principle and refuse to give in. "antigovernment" — People who have a healthy distrust of the liberal elite. "hazardous" — Any chemical. A grain of salt on a plate can become "sodium-chloride food contamination."

Leading us to the "Truth"

This phenomena is where advocates of non-left-wing policies are painted as weirdos from Mars while "experts" from state universities and government agencies are considered one step from God. Advocates of strong families are "traditional" — as if good child-rearing has gone out of style. If a scientific study supports the left it's a "new study." If it doesn't, it is a "controversial new study." President Clinton "says" things, Republicans "claim" things.

Making excuses

The media love to churn out apologies for their political allies. Remember how Randy Weaver was always introduced as "white separatist Randy Weaver"? Mr. Weaver's odd views are supposed to excuse the fact the FBI killed his wife and child because of a *firearms violation* and a *failure to appear in court*. Rep. Barney Frank was found in bed with a prostitute, but nobody heard about it because the prostitute was male. You see, Mr. Frank happens to be gay, which somehow exempts him from scrutiny. Call me crazy, but I don't think sexual orientation has any bearing on questions of integrity. One also wonders why Paula Jones's sexual harassment suit against the President receives so little air. Perhaps oral sex from employees is part of the Arkansas governor's benefits package.

The mainstream media has raised deception to a fine art. Content to hide behind the cloak of objectivity, the media feels no compulsion to be honest about their views. The impossible ideal of "just the facts" journalism needs to be seen for what it really is, a cover for the status-quo.

Kurt Horner is an architectural engineering freshman.

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK



Still on tiptoe

by Peggy Curtin

I began this quarter with a word from the world of the vertically challenged, so I thought it only fitting to end it with one.

Much to my dismay, the world has not changed as a result of my commentary. It's still a tall person's world. Short people are still living their lives on tiptoes.

Most recently, I've found riding the bus to be a pain. The vertically impaired should make it a point to not get caught in the front of the bus when there are no seats left. Reaching the overhead bar is a joke. If I wanted to practice dislocating my shoulder or refine my skills on the parallel bars, I would have gone out for gymnastics, where short people reign supreme.

The pit is no place for those who are vertically challenged. It's a simple fact of science that if you're under 5-foot-5 and moshing, you're going to end up on your butt most of the time.

One place where short people don't reign supreme is moshing. The pit is no place for those who are vertically challenged. It's a simple fact of science or of common sense that if you're under 5-foot-5 and moshing, you're going to end up on your butt most of the time.

Believe it or not, I sort of got caught in the pit at a Toad the Wet Sprocket concert last year. Well, it really wasn't, but it sure felt like it. I've never gotten elbowed and kicked in the head so much before. I was like a pin-

ball in an arcade game. Sometimes I would try to wander off in a different direction, but of course I would ultimately end up in the same place anyway. Being with a couple of stoned, drunk people who enjoyed making human trains through the crowd didn't help much either. I felt it was a matter of personal safety to stay up in the stands at the Gin Blossoms concert.

Boo Boo Records. No, this is not a plug. Every time I go in there, I feel like it's judgment day. The cashiers are up on the next level, so when I go to pay I feel like I should be bowing down to them. In reality though, my neck and my shins always hurt from looking up at the cashier and standing on my tiptoes.

You'd think by now at least the people at the Mustang Daily would understand. But no. I hope none of you have stopped by to put any nasty letters in my box, because I probably haven't seen them. After all, my box is on the top shelf. I can often be seen in the office jumping up and down trying to see if there are any messages in my box. A couple of times I've broken down and asked a vertically enhanced person to check it for me. They usually don't say anything, but sometimes they chuckle and say, "What's the matter, can't you reach it?" like they were God holding the key to my happiness.

Maybe I should just give up. After all, the world isn't getting any shorter.

Peggy Curtin is a Daily Staff Writer and has had ambitions of an NBA career cruelly crushed by the vertically enhanced.-D.P.

LETTERS

Backpacks and robbers

Editor,

I am now in the ranks of the stupid people on campus, having finally been done in by the on-campus crooks who hang out in front of El Corral.

In my usual routine between classes I went into the bookstore after class to browse the magazines, and as usual I stuck my backpack in the blue lockers in front, being cheap and not paying the quarter to lock it up.

I'm back in front five minutes later to find that my trusty backpack is gone. Yep, for reals. I'm not the kind of guy who cries out "I can't believe it happened to me," and I promise I won't go home and kick my dog over this. Writing this letter is enough venting for today. But

I would just like to give an open invitation to my robber friend; let's meet for lunch. I'm buying, and you are giving me my notes back. We better make it this week because I have to study for finals. You can keep the two textbooks. Buybacks are almost here and you deserve the 10 bucks you'll make. As for the rest of the contents, there weren't any, except an old bike light for your own safety. Enjoy my things, but please feel free to call me anytime you're up for it, and let me know about those notes. At least let me know what dumpster you dropped them in. Thanks.

Scott Nairne
English senior

Cheers for Poly Men Cagers

Editor,

I would like to take this time to congratulate the men's basketball team for a thrilling season. Coach Schneider did a spectacular job recruiting some great young players. Also, his up-and-down style of basketball perfectly suited the capabilities of his players. This style led to an astonishing turn around from last year that will be remembered for a long time. I am excited to see them use this year's success towards a better season next year. Who knows? N.I.T.?

Jason Dudum
Business administration freshman

MUSTANG DAILY

"She has end-of-the-quarteritis."

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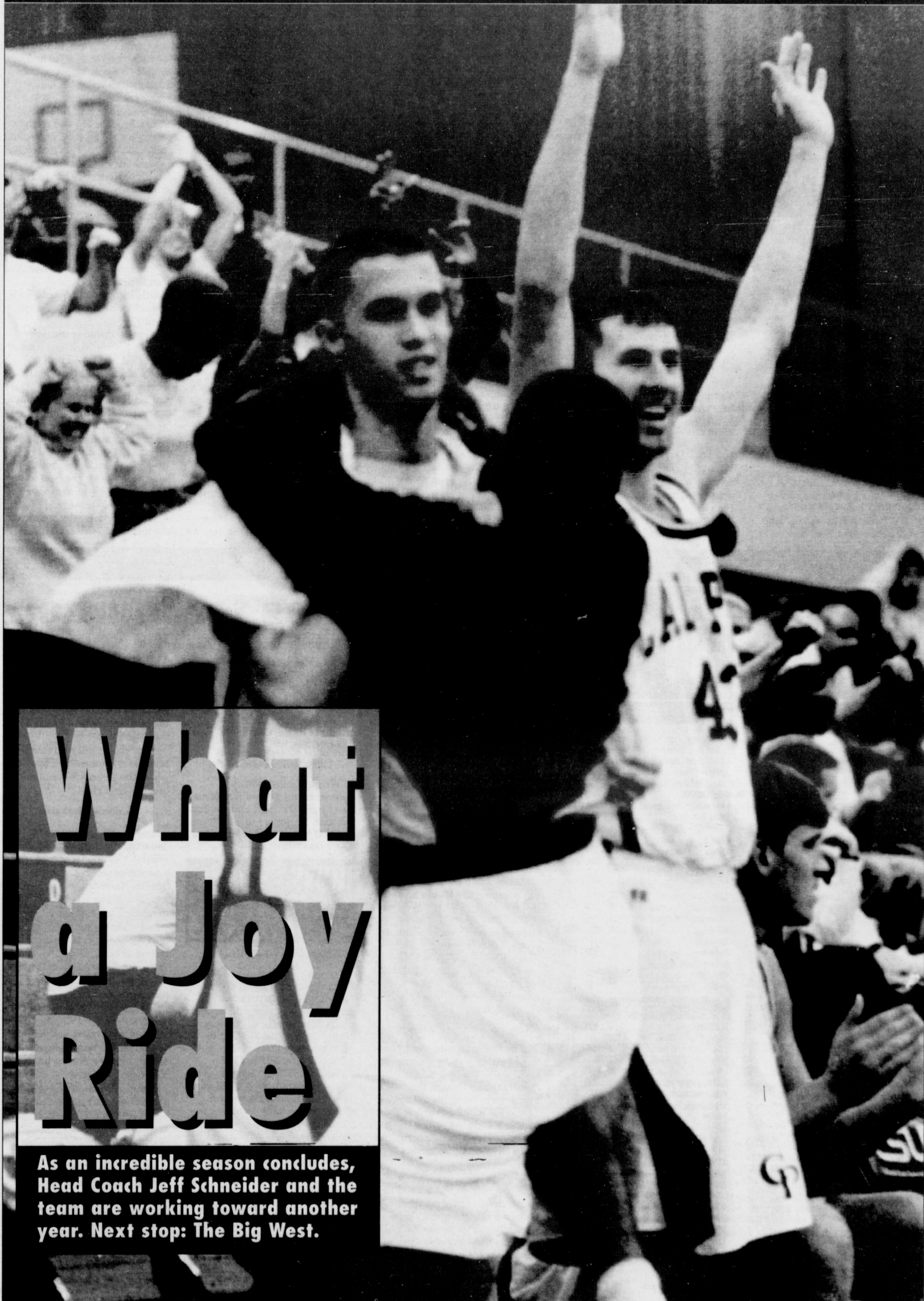
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The Sporting Journal

March 6, 1996



What a Joy Ride

As an incredible season concludes, Head Coach Jeff Schneider and the team are working toward another year. Next stop: The Big West.

Tourney favorites size up

By TOM WEIR
USA TODAY

LEXINGTON, Ky. - Separated by an hour's worth of bluegrass-lined highway on Saturday, the nation's No. 1 and 2-ranked college basketball teams put the finishing touches on their once-beaten regular seasons Saturday.

And though they will be the NCAA tournament favorites, Kentucky and Massachusetts are taking distinctly different paths into the postseason.

No 28-1 team should be described as reeling, but that tag nearly fits No. 2 Massachusetts. In their last three games, the Minutemen lost to George Washington, were dragged into overtime by St. Joseph's and then barely survived Saturday at Louisville, 62-59.

Normally, Massachusetts would owe no apologies for beating a top-20 team that was being urged on by a record 20,076 vocal fans at Freedom Hall.

But if the Minutemen truly are bound for the Final Four in New Jersey, they shouldn't have struggled on a day when two of Louisville's best shooters were two for 10 and Massachusetts owned the boards, 41-28.

No. 1 Kentucky, meanwhile, became the first Southeastern



Stretching out: Massachusetts' Marcus Camby has been contained in past games

Conference team in 40 years to go undefeated in league play. With a 101-63 rout of Vanderbilt, Kentucky ran its average victory margin in 16 SEC games to a whopping 24.2 points.

After just 2:32, the 26-1 Wildcats were up 13-0 and had seen Walter McCarty realize his fantasy of putting a 360-degree spin on a dunk in front of 24,257 fans at Rupp Arena.

So where does this leave Nos. 1 and 2 as conference tourna-

ments approach?

Right about here:

The size factor: After losing to Massachusetts in November as 6-foot-11 Marcus Camby scored 32 points, the rap was the Wildcats couldn't handle a big man. Since then, 6-11 Erick Dampier of Mississippi State and 7-0 Steve Hamer of Tennessee posed little problem.

As for Camby, teams are starting to learn that while you can't shoot over him (five blocks against Louisville), you have a

shot at going through him, as Louisville's Samaki Walker proved a couple of times.

Looking ahead, Massachusetts coach John Calipari says, "Right now what I'm seeing is that we've got to be ready for physical games in the tournament, and that's what we'll go back and work on."

Too much or too little depth: As Kentucky coach Rick Pitino says of his 10-deep team, "So many people thought we were going to self-destruct because we

had so much talent," and there would be resentment over playing time. But even Jeff Sheppard, a starter last season and a reserve this year, has been all smiles.

Calipari is tired of hearing that eight bodies aren't enough. He notes that television timeouts during the NCAA tournament last an invigorating two minutes and 50 seconds and says, "I think we're going to be fresher than we've been all year."

Blowouts or nail-biters?: Kentucky never trailed in the second half of an SEC game, and had only one single-digit victory, against Georgia. Pitino dismisses talk of Kentucky not being game-ready as fill-time chatter for commentators.

In keeping with its "Refuse to Lose" slogan, four Massachusetts victories have gone into overtime.

"Deep down inside, when it's crunch time, we've got it instilled in our minds that we'll find a way to pull it out," says Camby.

Nerves: Pitino is unhappy about a Sports Illustrated cover story that portrayed him as overly obsessed with winning.

The view from outside: Louisville coach Denny Crum has lost to Kentucky and Massachusetts. He says, "I think Kentucky has more overall talent and depth, and probably more size, but they're both tough. Kentucky has beaten people so badly, it's kind of tough to say how good they are."

And isn't that why we have the month of March

INSIDE THE NCAA

TOP 25

USA TODAY
TOP MEN'S TEAMS

	Record	Pts.	Pv.
1. Kentucky (26-1) (31)	799	1	
2. Massachusetts (28-1) (1)	761	2	
3. Connecticut (27-2)	733	4	
4. Purdue (25-4)	672	5	
5. Kansas (24-3)	656	3	
6. Georgetown (24-6)	601	9	
7. Texas Tech (25-1)	588	8	
8. Utah (23-5)	533	10	
9. Cincinnati (22-4)	530	6	
10. Wake Forest (20-5)	471	12	
11. Arizona (23-5)	458	11	
12. Villanova (24-5)	442	7	
13. Syracuse (22-7)	381	14	
14. Memphis (21-6)	335	15	
15. UCLA (21-7)	329	17	
16. Virginia Tech (22-4)	310	16	
17. Penn State (20-5)	308	13	
18. Georgia Tech (20-10)	269	20	
19. Iowa (21-7)	203	21	
20. North Carolina (19-9)	182	19	
21. Louisville (19-10)	145	18	
22. Iowa State (20-8)	131	23	
23. Wisconsin-Green Bay (25-3)	92	22	
24. Stanford (17-8)	63	24	
25. Marquette (20-6)	53	NR	

USA TODAY
TOP WOMEN'S TEAMS

	Record	Pts.	Pv.
1. Louisiana Tech (30)	23-1	985	1
2. Georgia (8)	23-3	961	2
3. Connecticut (1)	26-3	919	3
4. Stanford (1)	22-2	878	4
5. Tennessee	23-4	847	5
6. Iowa	24-2	795	7
7. Old Dominion	22-2	736	8
8. Virginia	22-5	690	9
9. Texas Tech	22-3	678	6
10. Vanderbilt	20-6	614	10
11. Penn St.	22-6	610	11
12. Duke	23-5	574	12
13. Alabama	20-6	479	14
14. Oregon St.	19-5	457	15
15. Wisconsin	20-6	454	13
16. Auburn	19-7	345	17
17. Purdue	18-9	307	21
18. Florida	18-7	290	19
19. N. Carolina St.	18-8	242	18
20. Colorado	22-8	173	20
21. Kansas	18-8	161	16
23. Mississippi	17-9	150	22
tie. Notre Dame	19-6	150	23
25. Texas	17-7	55	—

ncaa STATS

MEN

SCORING	G	PTS	AVG.
1. Kevin Granger, Texas South	24	648	27.0
2. Bubba Wells, Austin Peay	26	694	26.7
3. Marcus Brown, Murray St.	26	689	26.5
4. JaFonde Williams, Hampton	25	659	26.4
5. Anquell McCollum, Western C	26	679	26.1
REBOUNDING	G	NO.	AVG.
1. Marcus Mann, Mississippi Val.	26	344	13.2
2. Malik Rose, Drexel	26	332	12.8
3. Adonal Foyle, Colgate	26	324	12.5
4. Chris Ensminger, Valparaiso	27	321	11.9
5. Scott Farley, Mercer	26	304	11.7
ASSISTS	G	NO.	AVG.
1. Raimonds Miglinieks, UC Irvine	24	212	8.8
2. Curtis McCants, George Mason	26	211	8.1
3. Dan Pogue, Campbell	21	168	8.0
4. Lazarus Sims, Syracuse	28	209	7.5
5. Brevin Knight, Stanford	24	176	7.3
STEALS	G	NO.	AVG.
1. Pointer Williams, McNeese St.	24	104	4.3
2. Allen Iverson, Georgetown	28	108	3.9
3. Johnny Rhodes, Maryland	24	91	3.8
4. Rasul Salahuddin, Long Beach St.	26	94	3.6
5. Roderick Taylor, Jackson St.	27	97	3.6

WOMEN

SCORING	G	PTS	AVG.
1. Cindy Blodgett, Maine	28	762	27.2
2. Gray C. Harris, SE Mo. St.	26	702	27.0
3. Gina Somma, Manhattan	26	675	26.0
4. Shannon Johnson, South Caro	27	678	25.1
5. Ashley Berggren, Illinois	26	642	24.7
REBOUNDING	G	NO.	AVG.
1. Dana Wynne, Seton Hall	25	318	12.7
2. Felecia Autry, Campbell	24	298	12.4
3. Deneka Knowles, SE La.	22	268	12.2
4. Laphelia Doss, Eastern Ky.	24	292	12.2
5. Timothea Clemmer, Wright St.	24	290	12.1
ASSISTS	G	NO.	AVG.
1. Brenda Pantoja, Arizona	23	209	9.1
2. Heather Smith, Toledo	24	211	8.8
3. Tina Nicholson, Penn St.	28	236	8.4
4. Dayna Smith, Rhode Island	25	188	7.5
5. Eliza Sokolowska, California	22	162	7.4
STEALS	G	NO.	AVG.
1. LeKeysha Johnson, Southern-B.R.	20	109	5.4
2. Alfredo Jefferson, Delaware St.	25	129	5.2
3. Clefana Dawkins, Northeastern Ill.	25	124	5.0
4. Kaira Warfield, Morgan St.	24	114	4.8
5. Keisha Anderson, Wisconsin	26	117	4.5

as of 2/28/96

UCF qualifies for tourney

Knight time is the right time

Thanks to its first three-game win streak in the TAAC Tournament, Central Florida got an invitation to the NCAA Tournament. The Knights haven't had a four-game win streak since the start of the 1990-91 season.

UCF connected on 12 of 24 3-point attempts in its victory over Mercer on Saturday. It's a good thing the Knights were so accurate from long range since they were just 15 of 38 from two-point range.

Seventy-something

Georgetown crushed Villanova as the Hoyas scored 106 points against the Wildcats at the USAir Arena. Nova allowed more than 70 points in each of its three games since Kerry Kittles has been sidelined. In the 10 games prior to his suspension, no opponent scored more than 69 points against Villanova.

The 40-minute Minuteman

The ironman minutes appear to be catching up to slender UMass point guard Edgar Padilla. Even though the Minutemen hung on to beat Louisville 62-59 Saturday, the 6-foot-2, 170-pound junior committed seven turnovers, giving him 18 in the last three games.

Trendy

Form held in the MEAC title game. South Carolina State defeated Coppin State 69-56 as the Bulldogs improved to 19-2 in games when they score more than 65 points. Coppin, which was 18-3 in games where they scored 70 or more, fell to 1-7 in games where they didn't reach

to 70-point mark.

Line of the night

Ball State's Bonzi Wells connected on five of eight 3-point attempts, but was just one of 12 on the rest of his field-goal attempts in the Cardinals' 87-67 loss to Ohio.

Ugly line of the night

Wright State's Vitaly Potapenko missed on five of six shots from the field and committed nine turnovers in 34 fouled-plagued minutes of the Raiders' 67-61 loss to Detroit.

news notes

Where are you going, Mr. Robinson?

This week's edition of the "coaches going department" — Les Robinson at North Carolina State. He's another good guy whose record just isn't quite good enough.

N.C. State will be in the Atlantic Coast Conference's dreaded eight/nine play-in game for the fifth straight season. That will probably seal Robinson's fate.

The Wolfpack were awfully close to getting over the hump this year. They lost a bunch of really close games, but close just doesn't count.

What's more — their best player, Todd Fuller, graduates after the season. Robinson will likely resign during the week after the season ends.

And then speculation on his replacement will center on people like Tulane's Perry Clark

who has ACC experience as an assistant with Georgia Tech from 1982-88 or Old Dominion's Jeff Capel whose eldest son, Jeff, plays for Duke and whose youngest son, Jason, is one of the best high school junior's in the country.

Everybody will also mention Mike Jarvis for every important job — the George Washington coach is that good.

A cooler hot seat

In the coaches not going department, Rutgers' Bob Wenzel will apparently be given a new contract because the Scarlet Knights have played so well down the stretch in their first Big East season.

Another reason for his probable new contract is Rutgers has a good shot at landing two in-state superstars for next season — 6-foot-10 Tim Thomas and 5-foot-9 Shaheen Holloway.

As long as Wenzel, a Rutgers graduate, can put a competitive team on the court and have a chance at big name players coming out of New Jersey, he can survive at Rutgers.

James Madison's Lefty Driesell doesn't want a new contract. Apparently it will be his choice as to whether or not he wants to return to finish his contract next season.

Driesell turns 65 on Christmas Day and isn't even sure if he wants to coach anymore. But coming off his second losing season in 35 years, he will probably decide to come back for one last try.

California.

THE SPORTING JOURNAL
WIRE SERVICES

Let the frenzy begin

STORY BY
MARK ARMSTRONG
THE SPORTING JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

PHOTOS BY
DAWN KALMAR

A coach's work is never finished. Just when you thought Cal Poly men's basketball Coach Jeff Schneider would kick off his polished loafers and pull the handle on his La-z-boy to watch some March Madness on television, the coach is hitting the road again. It's time to sell Cal Poly.

And with the kind of season that the Mustangs just completed, Schneider doesn't think that's going to be too tough.

He's got it all planned out. The signing frenzy of new players begins in the middle of April, just in time for prospective students to get a glimpse of Cal Poly during Open House weekend.

Take them to the beach just for good measure, introduce them to the rest of the team and they're all his.

It worked last year. Six of the seven prospective students who Schneider brought to Cal Poly signed a letter of intent.

"I don't want to just sit back and rest," Schneider said. "We need to continue to build."

Schneider will leave Wednesday on a crusade throughout California, Texas and Utah to start going down his wish-list of blue-chip players.

His ideal prospect? Probably a 7-foot-8, 450 pounder with an incredible game beyond the three-point line. But the chances aren't too good that anyone is going to find this mythical creature.

But if anyone could do it, it

would be Schneider.

The coach has built a reputation throughout the country from his work at Tulsa and Washington State for his ability to snag great recruits.

"I was fortunate enough to be in some programs where we recruited well and established some good contacts," Schneider said.

The coach will look to recruit three new players for the upcoming season, and Schneider hopes to find some big players to help the team under the basket with rebounding.

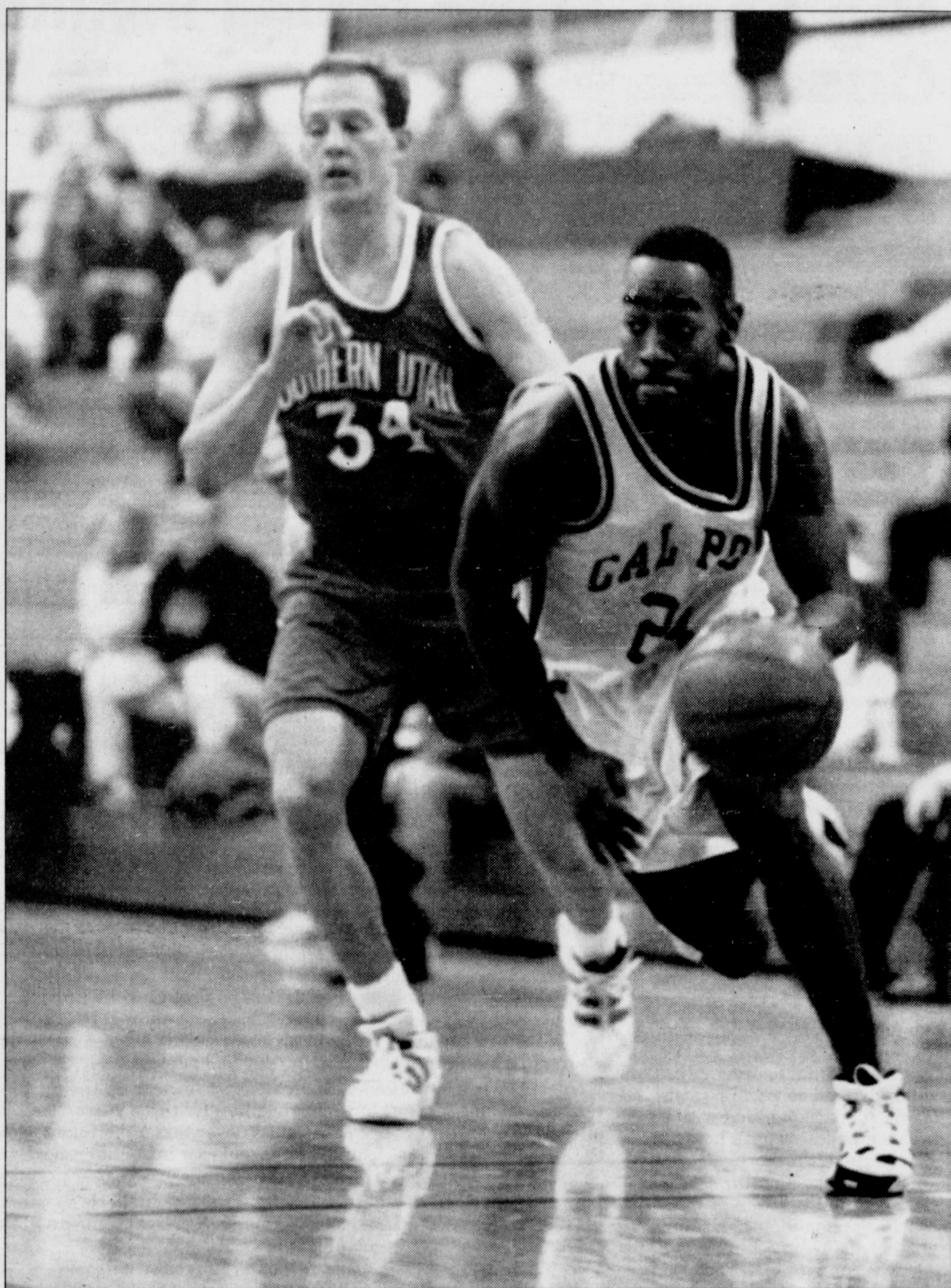
Schneider won't have to look very far for one big guy.

Freshman Russ Bryden, who redshirted for the Mustangs this season, will be a huge help next season, according to the coach.

Schneider said that the only thing that kept the 6-9, 225 pound freshman from suiting up this season was senior David Sternlight's performance as a walk-on.

"Russ will be better as a fifth-year senior than a first-year freshman," Schneider said.

The coach also has high hopes for freshman Ross Ketcham, who stepped out of the



Seeing the lane: Junior guard Shanta Cotright makes his base-line move.

shadows of Mission Prep High School to give the team a big player who can shoot from the outside.

"I really like to have the big man who can shoot the three," Schneider said of Ketcham. "He'll just get bigger and stronger."

Another area of focus for Schneider was to find a second point-guard to help out freshman Ben Larson.

Schneider found his man last

August.

Schneider signed Mitch Ohnstad, of Faribault, Minn. on Nov. 10, the early-signing deadline.

"He's a player I'm really glad we got early," Schneider said. The 6-2, 180-pound point guard, who says he patterns his game and work ethic after Santa Clara's Steve Nash, is the third all-time leading scorer in Minnesota history.

That will make two soft-spoken, midwestern point guards for the Mustangs.

"He'll make an immediate impact," Schneider said of Ohnstad. "He will be a strong candidate for newcomer of the year in the Big West."

Ohnstad had narrowed his choices down to Iowa State, Michigan State, Montana State, St. Mary's and Cal Poly. Ohnstad said that he was drawn to Cal Poly because of Schneider's enthusiasm about the program. He was sold when he came to visit in November to check out the campus and meet the team.

"He seemed really enthusiastic with the direction," Ohnstad said of Schneider. "He felt he could turn them into winners. I liked everything."

Ohnstad averaged 27 points per game during his junior year and shot 40 percent from the three-point line. He had been keeping up with Cal Poly's progress as much as he could from his home 40 minutes south of the Twin Cities, but he has kept his mind on his high school team, which has a 21-1 record

heading into the state playoffs.

Ohnstad said that Schneider's youthful demeanor helps the coach relate better to the students he's trying to recruit than older coaches.

"Being a former player himself, he knows what the players are like today," Ohnstad said.

Back at home, Schneider plans to send the team to the weight room this spring and summer. The players aren't expecting much of a rest.

"We're going to try to work really hard in the weight room," freshman guard Ben Larson said, who's looking to put on a couple of pounds during the off-season.

Schneider isn't looking to fatten his prized point-guard too much, because he said Larson's strength is in his small size and quickness.

Schneider said that bulk will be the key word for many of the other returning players, however.

Meanwhile, Schneider will be out making phone calls, visiting homes, and leading some private campus tours. This year's recruiting strategy won't be the blind shot-in-the-dark method Schneider said he had to use last year.

"I didn't know how some of our players would perform," the coach said of his first year finding players. "I know what our needs are now. We'll be very selective."

With a 16-13 season record to boast rather than a 1-26 record, Schneider is confident those needs will be filled quickly.



Maybe next year: Freshman Steve Fleming consoles teammate Ben Larson after Cal Poly's loss to Southern Utah. The Mustangs will compete for the Big West title next year.

Big East: Lewis falling behind Costly phone calls

By JILL LIEBER
USA TODAY

The phone calls weren't free after all.

Villanova guard Kerry Kittles' unauthorized use of a telephone credit card will cost him dearly.

It will likely cost him the Big East Player of the Year award and possibly All-America honors.

Kittles, suspended for the final three games of the regular season for running up \$3,000 in unauthorized calls, missed a matchup against Uconn's Ray Allen last weekend. He will miss one against Georgetown's Allen Iverson this weekend.

Iverson and Allen were his chief competition for Big East Player of the Year. Those games figured to go a long way in determining whether Kittles would become the first Big East player to win the honor in consecutive seasons in more than a decade. Kittles needed to play well.

Now, it would seem, he has disqualified himself.

It's a shame, too. Kittles has been a class act throughout his career.

The priests back at St. Augustine's private high school in New Orleans where Kittles graduated would surely have administered corporal punishment. A good spanking with a wooden paddle. That's how they discipline down there.

Kittles was an altar server as a boy, and is now a Eucharistic minister on campus (he helps during communion). He was contrite in acknowledging his sin this week. He used words like "selfish" and "humiliated" when he met the press. He knows he embarrassed more than himself.

"I made a mistake," he said. "I'm sorry for the mistake I made. I'm taking full responsibility for my actions. This will have an effect for a very long time. I hope that someday I can regain everybody's trust."

The powers that be at Villanova didn't hand out a slap on the wrist. They acted firmly. They sent a message. They did the right thing. Kittles was given a university credit card number in 1994 to use for one telephone interview. He kept the number, and he kept using it. He's paying a price now.

Ultimately, this should be good for Kittles. It's good for Villanova, too.

Too many stars are excused their indiscretions. Too often, it's explained away or ignored, and then one unpunished sin leads to others in a program. Kittles is a role model and a leader, and so this problem potentially infects others. But Villanova acted, and Kittles did what a leader does. He admitted his mistake, apologized and vowed to make up for this.

Still, the regular season isn't what this year's about for the Wildcats. The 'Cats would happily trade three regular-season losses for three or more postseason victories.

"Our thing is the tournament," Villanova coach Steve Lappas said.

And so Kittles has a chance to end his playing career on a high note.

THE SPORTING JOURNAL
WIRE SERVICES

Lewis falling behind

By JILL LIEBER
USA TODAY

ATLANTA - When Carl Lewis finished last in his opening heat of the 60-meter dash Saturday at the USA/Mobil Indoor Track and Field Championships at the Georgia Dome, some members of the media suggested the impending interview with Lewis would be his retirement party.

At 34 and in his 14th season on the world-class track scene, Lewis is on the downside of his brilliant career, and, seemingly, fading fast.

Once the world's fastest man, having set a world record in the 100 meters (9.86) at the 1991 World Championships in Tokyo, Lewis hasn't broken 10 seconds or won an important individual sprint title since.

This season has gotten off to a less than auspicious start. On Feb. 3, Lewis finished last in the 60-meter dash at the Gallery Furniture Games in Houston in a mediocre time of 6.84. Saturday's time was 6.77.

Although Lewis claims he's committed to making his fourth and final Olympic team, it appears that only he and his closest friends believe it's possible.

"No one has been written off more over the course of a career than I have," Lewis says. "There's a reason that certain athletes do great things. ... Never underestimate the great things their passion will allow them to achieve."

Adds Joe Douglas, Lewis' manager: "I won't bet on Carl Lewis in little meets, and I never bet against him in the big ones. Nobody can beat him if he's at his best."

In fact, Lewis, who has run 60 meters indoors three times in his career, only participated in the indoor meets because of contractual obligations with Nike. While in Atlanta, he made an in-store appearance at Niketown to promote his new organ donor trading card and the Wendy Marx Foundation for Organ Donor Awareness, which he co-founded.

"I didn't expect to run fast here," says Lewis, who hasn't even begun his sprint training. "After competing in 20 or 30 national championships, how could I get motivated for the indoor nationals, when I don't even like running indoors? All I have to do is get ready for two meets this year — the Trials and the Olympics."

Knowing this would be his final Olympic run, Lewis started a new training program last August. For the first time, he lifted weights and focused on strength and distance running. He also worked with a medicine ball, did plyometrics and yoga. A strict vegetarian, Lewis has reduced his body fat to 3 percent.

Also, Lewis has worked with an allergist to clear up the congestion and sicknesses that have plagued him for three years. "I'm allergic to everything," Lewis says. "I'd never taken the time to get to the bottom of it. Just feeling better makes a huge difference."

Tuesday, Lewis moves into the outdoors sprint phase of his training program, with his sights set on the Trials in June. He's training for the 100 and 200 meters, and the long jump. He'll compete in two events, but won't say which until the Trials.

"I don't have anything left to prove," Lewis says. "I used to be the Boy Wonder. Now, I'm the grandfather."

"This is a challenge. ... In the past, I won with my body, mind and soul. This time, I'll do it with my heart."

Magic might vanish

By KELLY CARTER
USA TODAY

INGLEWOOD, Calif. - Magic Johnson plans on returning to the NBA next season but not necessarily with the Los Angeles Lakers, the only NBA team he has ever played for.

"I'm identified with winning and with this team," Johnson said Sunday. "I'm about winning, so wherever I end up it's going to be about winning. I want to be here because this is home."

He is also interested in playing in New York or Miami.

Since Johnson returned to the Lakers Jan. 29, they are 12-3 with one of the losses coming against Chicago and two to Houston, including Sunday's 111-107 setback.

Johnson has missed four games, all Laker wins, because of a calf injury. Since his return, they have increased their scoring (101.6 to 106.1), field-goal percentage (47.0 to 49.5), rebounding (40.0 to 42.2) and assists (24.8 to 28.2).

He is averaging 14.1 points, 5.7 rebounds and 6.7 assists in 25.2 minutes.

"We're hoping we don't have to put an end to it," coach Del Harris said of Johnson's comeback. "I'd certainly hope that he'd be able to put in a full year next year because this year was hard coming in after the midpoint of the season and not getting in that training camp condition. So whatever he is able to accomplish this year, I think it will be a little bit easier for him to match and better next year."

Returning to play next season is one of the reasons Johnson said he chose not to pursue the opportunity to play on this year's Dream Team.

Every summer, he and his wife Cookie spend three to four weeks in Hawaii and two weeks in Europe. The U.S. Olympic team will be together from July 1 to Aug. 3. Last week, Johnson and Cookie lay in bed they discussed his possible schedule.

"Cookie's like, 'Hey, wait a minute. Where are we going to get our time this summer?'" Johnson said.

He took more than just his schedule into consideration.

"My comeback has been smooth and great so I want to keep it like that," he said. "If I got selected, then (the media) will be like, 'Well, I don't know.' Might as well not even start that. I'll always have it in the back of my mind that somebody will say it's unfair or something or maybe the other guy deserved it because they played the whole season. I don't want to get into that."

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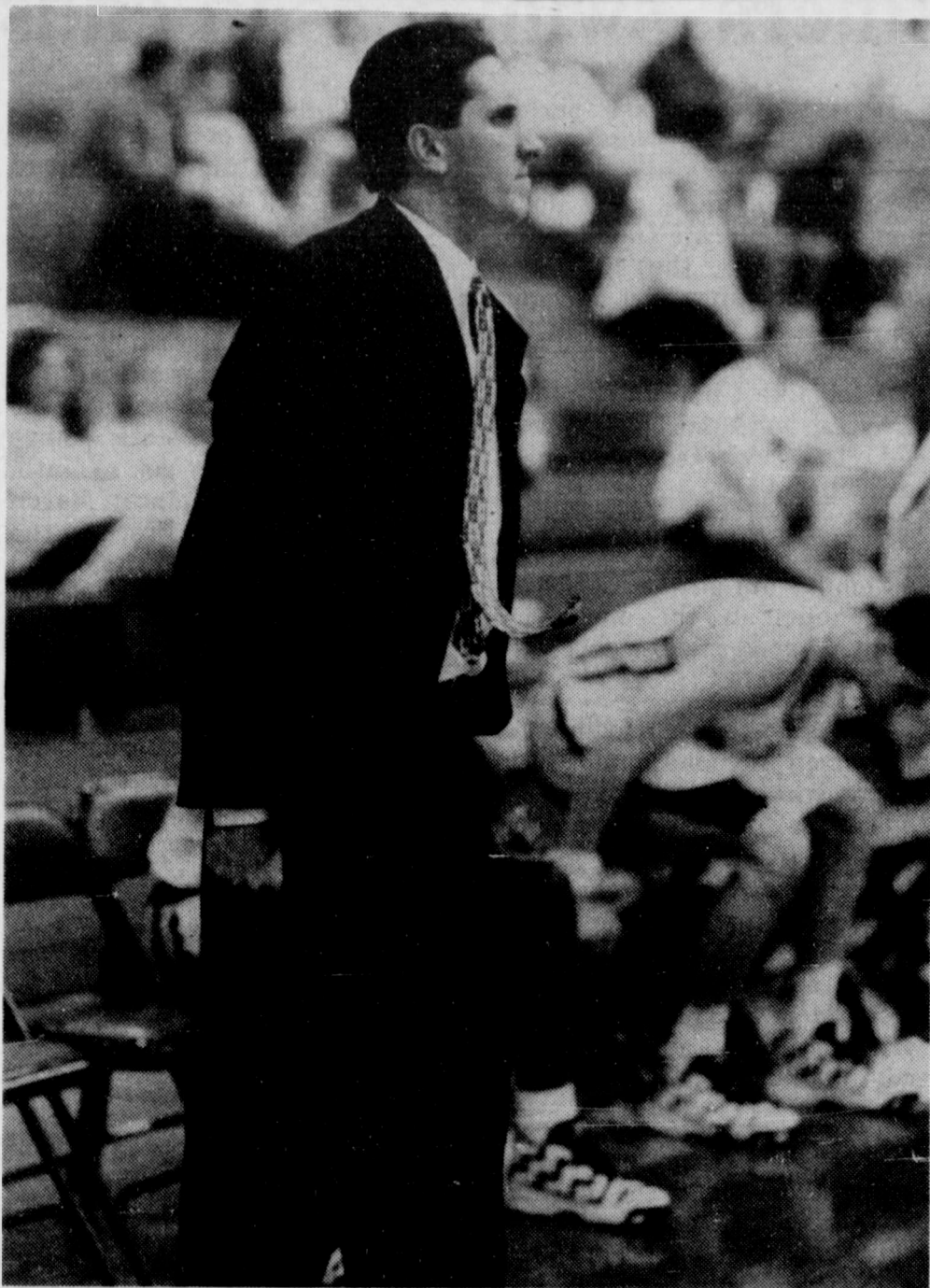
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Cal Poly Men's Basketball Head Coach Jeff Schneider was named American West Conference Coach of the Year / Daily photo by Dawn Kalmar

BASKETBALL: Game attendance reached 3,214

From page 8

A two-game losing streak at the end of the regular season, and the loss to Southern Utah in the AWC Championship game put a damper on the celebrations.

But the positives outweighed the negatives this year for the young Mustang team.

As the Mustangs' season gained more momentum, the fans also finally appeared.

Attendance at the basketball games began to increase with games early in the season including big-name North Carolina State in December, which pulled in 3,214. Soon Cal Poly was a big

name in itself, and sold out its last home game against Southern Utah.

Schneider wasn't around for last season's home finale, but he figured it didn't look quite the same.

"Last year, we had a couple hundred people at the game," Schneider said. "And now we had a couple hundred people watching through the windows."

The overcrowding can only get worse as the Mustangs head into the Big West next year.

With bigger names coming into the gym, Schneider may want to push for at least a few more windows in the place.

RACE: 'If he doesn't have it wrapped up, he's close.'

From page 1

The returns looked like this:

In Georgia, with more than half the precincts counted, Dole had 39 percent, Buchanan 34 percent, Alexander 13 and Forbes 11.

The New England states were solid for Dole. He was picking up 47 percent of the vote in Massachusetts, with Buchanan next at 26. In Connecticut, Dole had 54 percent and Forbes 20. In Vermont, it was 41 percent for Dole, with Buchanan, Forbes and Lugar all in the teens. In Maine, Dole had 46 percent, Buchanan 25 and 15 for Forbes.

In Maryland, Dole had 55 percent and Buchanan 19. Several major Dole backers said Buchanan and Forbes were dreaming if they thought they were still in the race.

"It's over," said New York Sen. Alfonse D'Amato.

"If he doesn't have it wrapped up, he's close," said Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar. He urged others to clear the field: "There's no need to keep fighting among ourselves."

Dole, for his part, said he couldn't tell rivals what to do. But he said: "We need to get the party together and aim at Clinton. So far, the guy has had a free ride while we beat each other up but that is about to change."

The wins in Massachusetts,

Vermont and Connecticut gave Dole 76 delegates from those winner-take-all states, and he was assured of picking up most of the 89 delegates at stake in Georgia, Maryland and Maine. By the end of Tuesday's contests, Dole was sure to have at least 20 percent of the 996 delegates he needs to wrap up the nomination, far more than his nearest challenger.

Across the states voting Tuesday, Dole cut into Buchanan's core support among religious right, very conservative, low-income and Ross Perot voters. Dole supporters said beating Clinton and his experience in Washington were his most important qualities.

The big night for Dole followed a resounding win Saturday in South Carolina.

President Clinton was assured of victory in the Democratic primaries. But Dole, already urging Republicans to unify around his candidacy, suggested Clinton's tranquility was about to come to an end.

Even before Tuesday's voting, there was pressure on the lagging candidates to clear the field. Gingrich led this chorus, and GOP Chairman Haley Barbour said the time was soon approaching when he might try and nudge a recalcitrant challenger or two to the sidelines.

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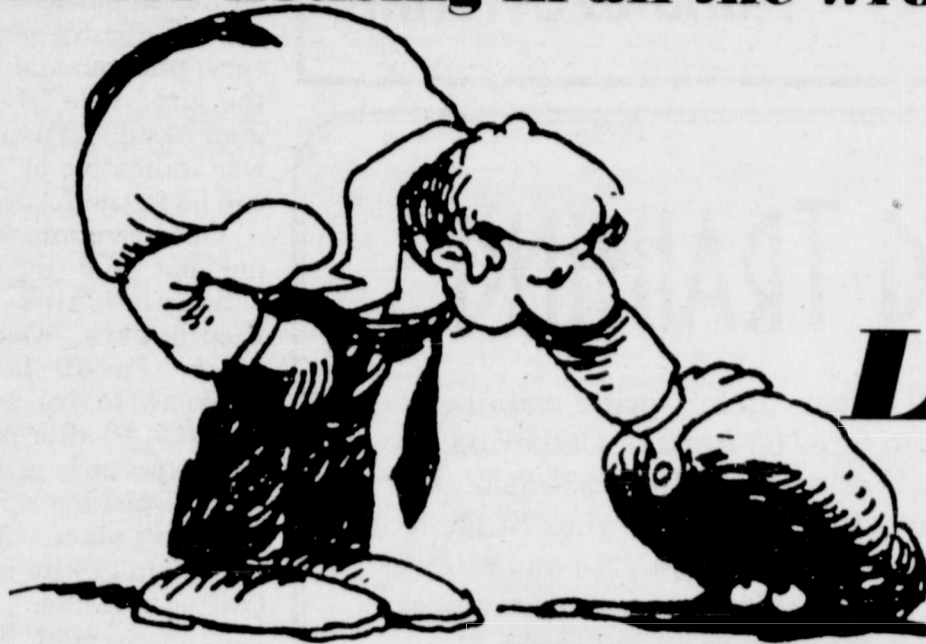
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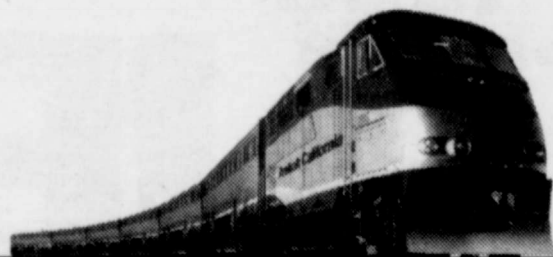
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6 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 1996

Sports

MUSTANG DAILY

No NCAA qualifiers, swim season ends

By Peggy Curtin
Daily Staff Writer

For the men's and women's swim team, the Big West Championships on Feb. 22-24 were filled with both joy and sorrow.

Joy because of several outstanding performances including three Cal Poly records, and sorrow because the season came to an end with no one qualifying for the NCAAs.

Overall, the men's team did not improve on their last place finish from last year, but the women moved up a remarkable two spots, beating out University of the Pacific by a slim five points for fourth place.

"The team's performance was very phenomenal, especially on the girls' side," Coach Rich Firman said. "Their performance was indicative of where Cal Poly can be in the future."

One swimmer's season that did not end at the Big West Championships was Krista Kiedrowski's. Kiedrowski swam in the Pac-10 Invitational last weekend to try and qualify for the NCAAs after not meeting her own expectations at the Big West despite picking up a fourth, fifth and sixth place.

"I didn't swim up to my potential (at the Big West)," Kiedrowski said. "I wanted to see if I could swim faster."

At the Pac-10, Kiedrowski picked up a career best in the 100-meter butterfly and placed seventh in the 100-meter backstroke, but failed to gain at least a NCAA consideration time for the championships in Michigan.

It was Kiedrowski's performance at the Big West, which was won by University of Nevada-Reno, along with Jodie Snowbarger, Jackie Gagnon and Becky Otley in the 400-meter freestyle relay, however, that put the women in fourth place in the event's final race.

"I felt like I had let the team down all weekend," Kiedrowski said. "I just wanted to swim as fast as I could."

"I knew it was going to be very close," Firman said. "I was just hoping our girls would be excited enough and the competition would be good enough to post a good time."

Others posting good times for the women included: junior Kelli Quinn, who placed fifth in the 200-meter breaststroke and eighth in the 100-meter breaststroke; Snowbarger, who picked up a sixth for her efforts in the 50-meter freestyle and a 10th in the 100-meter free; and Leisha Masi who placed 13th and 14th in the 1650-meter freestyle and 400-meter individual medley.

On the men's side, three Cal Poly records fell in the 100 and 200 breaststroke and the 200-meter individual medley. Sophomore Gus Smyers, who Firman calls a big-meet swimmer, improved on the records he set last year in the 100 and 200 breaststroke, placing fifth and seventh. Ian Pyka set the third school record, beating the old one by 0.22 seconds.

"(Last year's meet) was more

of kind of a wipeout," Pyka said. "We had a real positive attitude (this year). It's easy to get a bad attitude being in last place and being the new kid on the block."

Several men had good races at the meet which was won by University of California, Santa Barbara including: freshman Chad Brock, who reached the finals in three events; Steve Stehrenberger who got a ninth, 10th and 16th place; Jason Stephens and Chad Brock in the short freestyle events, and sophomore Blake Seeley in the grueling 1650 freestyle.

The men's lack of divers and a disqualification in the 400 free relay are the main reasons, according to Pyka, why the men didn't improve on their placing despite having 14 people final.

All in all, it was a weekend filled with team pride.

"A good thing about our team is everyone cheers for everyone," Masi said. "You can't help but be excited."

"A lot of teams envy us for our togetherness," Pyka said. "We're a together team. We're very loud and a very cohesive unit."

The men's team, which finished the season with a 1-5 dual-meet record, will lose only four people and will get back junior freestyler Eric Collins, who was out due to injury. The women, meanwhile, who ended the season with a 5-3 record, will lose three swimmers.

WOMEN: Guard Kellie Hoffman ended her career with 1,033 points

From page 8

against the division II ranked Cal State San Bernardino.

Shooting 54 percent from the floor, Cal Poly beat the Coyotes 49-27 for the Mustang's fifth and final win of the season.

Hoffman said one of the biggest team accomplishments was sticking together during a long season. However, they had hoped for a better record.

"We made it through a rough season," Hoffman said. "We had expected more in the win-loss column."

Cal Poly was eliminated in the first round of the AWC tournament held in Northridge last Saturday.

A 77-61 tournament loss to Sacramento was the final straw, as Cal Poly only shot 36 percent from the floor. Booker dismissed the losses as a building point for the Mustang's future seasons.

"I think this year was a good year as far as laying the founda-

tion of hard work," Booker said. "And the direction that we want to go in."

"Philosophy wise, the players understand now more as far as what (the coaches) mean in terms of hard work ethic."

Taylor also agreed that this season was a learning period with the players adjusting to a new coach.

"It was a difficult transition," Taylor said. "We didn't have time to play together over the summer, that is why it took late in the season to come together."

Although the team record wasn't excellent, some players performances were.

Hoffman scored her way into the record books, making her the fourth all-time scorer at Cal Poly with 1,033 points. Named AWC player of the week twice, Hoffman was also named to the AWC first team.

Joining her on the all-conference team is Carrillo and senior center Sherron Lee who

were both named to second-team. Named to the honorable mention were Garrett and sophomore forward Rona Bevien.

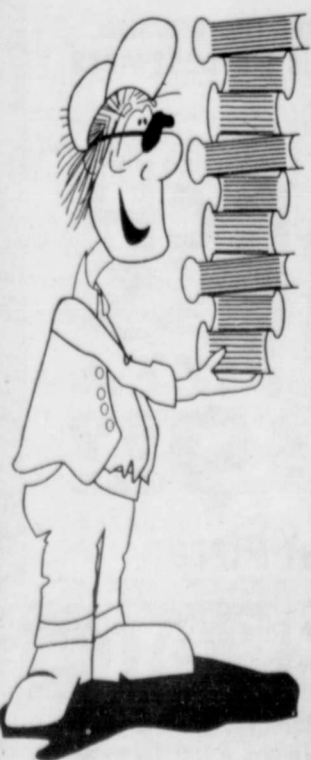
Overall, the Mustangs shot 39 percent from the floor and grabbed an average of 39 rebounds a game.

Seniors Hoffman, Lee, Taylor and forward Katie Bauer will all be leaving the team, three of whom started most games.

Next year, Cal Poly begins competition in the Big West. Coach Booker, hoping to make a positive introductory season, is adding seven new recruits to the roster.

"We are looking at junior college players that are ready to step in," Booker said. "We need immediate impact players."

The disappointment of this season is starting to be overshadowed by the hope of next season. New recruits and veterans will compose the team that will face off the Big West next year.



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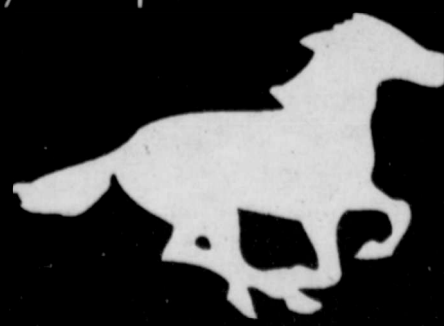
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SPORTS
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A TAVERN OF SPORTS NEWS

SCHEDULE

TODAY'S GAMES

- There are no games scheduled today.

TOMORROW'S GAMES

- There are no games tomorrow.

POLY BRIEFS

All-American West Conference teams announced

MEN'S BASKETBALL

- MVP: Ben Larson-Cal Poly
- Freshman of the Year: Ben Larson-CP
- Coach of the Year: Jeff Schneider-CP

FIRST TEAM

- Shanta Cotright-Cal Poly
- Ben Larson-Cal Poly
- Ruben Oronoz-Cal State Northridge
- Michael Boyd-Cal State Sacramento
- Abie Ramirez-Cal State Sacramento
- Jon Gaines-Southern Utah
- Reggie Ingram-Southern Utah

SECOND TEAM

- Damien Levesque-Cal Poly
- Trenton Cross-Cal State Northridge
- Markel Sadler-Cal State Sacramento
- David Victor-Cal State Sacramento
- Jim Crosbie-Southern Utah
- Don Faux-Southern Utah

HONORABLE MENTION

- Colin Bryant-Cal Poly
- Eric Gray-Cal State Northridge
- Robert Hill-Cal State Northridge
- Eric Carey-Cal State Sacramento
- Daryl Christopher-Southern Utah

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

- Co-MVP: Myndee Larsen-Southern Utah
- Co-MVP: Sarah Stapp-Sac. State
- Freshman of the Year: Julie Wastell-Cal State Sacramento
- Coach of the Year: Larry Shurtliff-Southern Utah

FIRST TEAM

- Shelby Boudreaux-Sac. State
- Carrie Dormire-Cal State Northridge
- Cherri Frandsen-Southern Utah
- Kellie Hoffman-Cal Poly
- Linsey Mortensen-Southern Utah

SECOND TEAM

- Mary Ann Bowman-Cal State Sac.
- Christina Carrillo-Cal Poly
- Sherron Lee-Cal Poly
- Tammie Mills-Cal State Northridge
- Krista Wardle-Southern Utah

HONORABLE MENTION

- Maureen Batiste-Cal State Northridge
- Rona Bevien-Cal Poly
- Monica Doman-Southern Utah
- Erin Enders-Cal State Sacramento
- Ava Garrett-Cal Poly
- Pam Karbowski-Cal State Northridge
- Tami Newton-Southern Utah
- Sherry Ramirez-Cal State Northridge
- Mandi Shaheen-Southern Utah
- Jessica Sparrow-Southern Utah

PAC-10
Wrestling Championships

1. Cal State Bakersfield.....155
2. Arizona State.....138.5
3. Oregon State.....119
4. Oregon.....79
5. Cal Poly.....69
6. Boise State.....68
7. Stanford.....48
8. Cal State Fullerton.....38
9. U.C. Davis.....13.5

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Last year, we had a couple hundred people at the games, and now we had a couple hundred people looking through the windows."

Jeff Schneider

Cal Poly men's basketball coach about the final home game against Southern Utah

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Mustangs honored by AWC



Cal Poly's men's basketball team pulled together to become one of the most improved teams in NCAA history this season / Daily photo by Dawn Kalmar

By Mark Armstrong
Daily Staff Writer

Who would have thought it possible?

A couple local columnists couldn't fathom it. And it took a few games to make believers out of the fans at Cal Poly.

But it happened.

The men's basketball team emerged from the basement of Division I to triumph over the American West Conference and bring Cal Poly national attention for improving a 1-26 record to a much more respectable 16-13.

The honors continued Monday.

Cal Poly Head Coach Jeff Schneider was named AWC Coach of the Year, and freshman point guard Ben Larson earned the AWC's Most Valuable Player award and Freshman of the Year.

Schneider was practically a no-brainer for the coaching award. Every coach who had to face the high-speed offense and full-court press the first-year coach installed praised his accomplishments.

Coaches on opposing teams echoed the same congratulatory remarks for Schneider's work with a team that, one year ago, ended its dismal season with a huge thud.

"He's done an outstanding job and deserves a lot of credit," Southern Utah Coach Bill Evans said of Schneider after the AWC tournament.

"It's really a team award," Schneider said modestly of the honor.

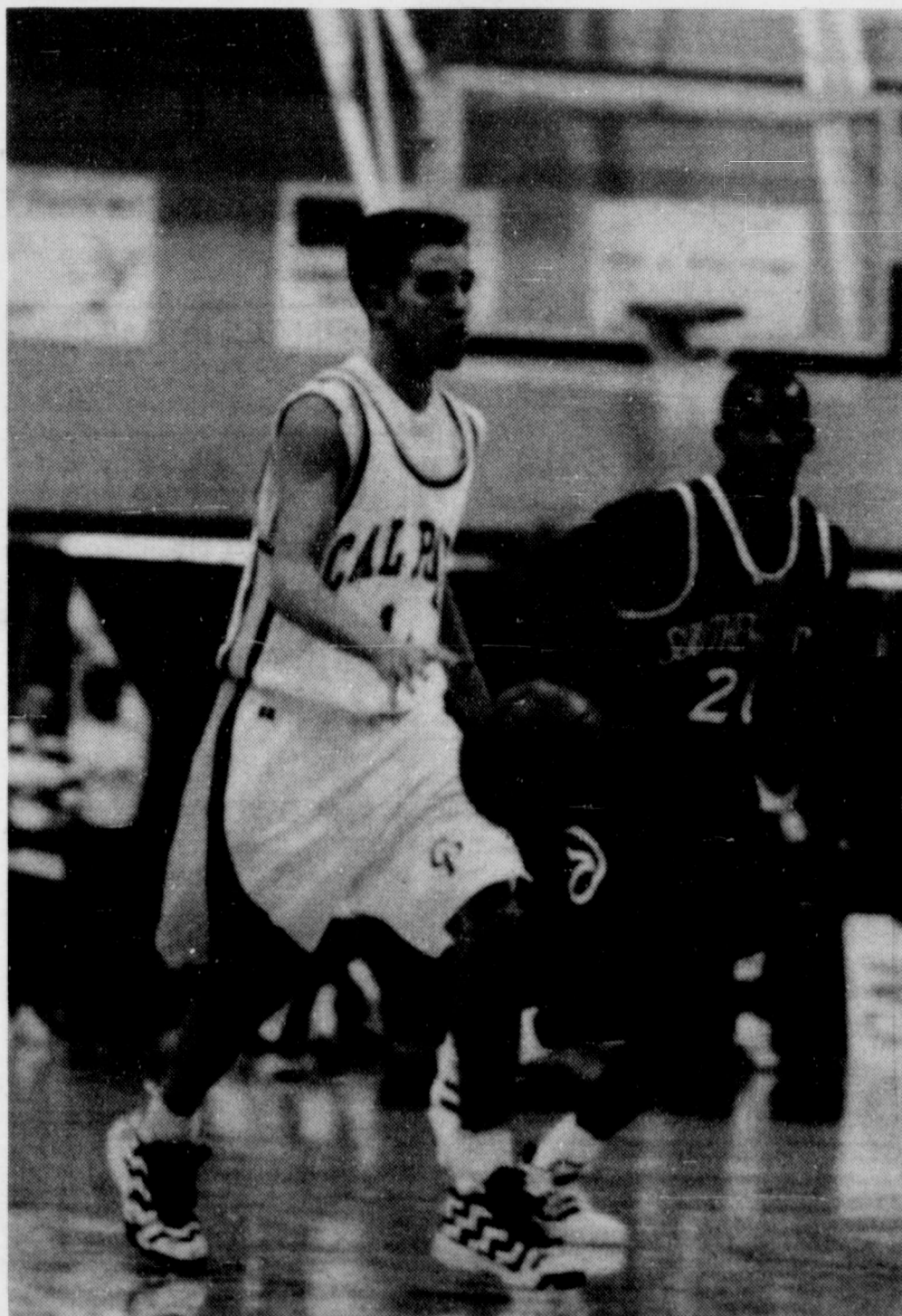
But the team had its own awards to be proud of this year.

Schneider's recruit from Elkhart, Ind., Larson, had a lot to do with the success.

The freshman point guard averaged 12.8 points, 5.2 assists and an average of 3.45 steals per game. Larson swiped his 100th steal in the AWC Championship game, making him one of only three freshman ever in the NCAA to reach triple digits for steals in a season. The other two players were Jason Kidd of Cal Berkeley and Nadev Henefeld of UConn.

Larson also shattered Cal Poly's three-point record with 94 from beyond the arc for the year. The previous record was 67.

"I was a little surprised I got it (the MVP)," Larson said Tuesday, and noted that he had the rest of the players to thank for the award, especially junior guard Shanta Cotright. "I thought 'Ta' had the best chance.



Cal Poly guard Ben Larson was named American West Conference Most Valuable Player and Freshman of the Year / Daily photo by Dawn Kalmar

He deserved it just as much."

Cotright was named to the AWC first team.

Cotright led the AWC in scoring, averaging 16.8 points per game during the season.

"Ben had a great year," Schneider said about his freshman MVP honor, "and Shanta was a strong candidate for the honor also."

The coach said Larson and Cotright were possibly the best two players in the league this

season, and he is comforted by one major detail.

"I'm really glad they're returning," Schneider said.

Other members of the team were also honored with junior Damien Levesque nabbing second-team honors, while junior Colin Bryant was named on the third team.

With all of the honors, Cal Poly finally found an uplifting note to end the season.

See BASKETBALL page 5

Cal Poly reflects on losing season

By Tereza Galiardi
Daily Staff Writer

Disappointed faces filled Cal Poly's bench as the final seconds of women's basketball's last home game ticked down to another loss.

This look became familiar to fans during Cal Poly's unsuccessful season ending in a 5-22 (2-4 AWC) record and a third-place finish in the American West Conference.

A new coach, few new recruits and lack of team togetherness were some of the medley of problems that plagued the team throughout the season.

Senior center Nicole Taylor blamed the losing season on lack of consistency in team playing.

"We would have times where we would play great as a team and everyone was clicking with each other," Taylor said. "That takes time to progress and a lot of us didn't have time to play together over the summer."

"That is why it took late in the season to come together."

Cal Poly lost the first 10 games of the season before picking up its first win against Wyoming in late December.

The win — 67-51 over Wyoming — earned junior forward Ava Garrett a then career-high 16 points.

In a game partially won by Cal Poly's rebounding skills, Coach Karen Booker

cited Wyoming as one of the team highlights of the season.

"The Wyoming game is probably one of the best games of the year," Booker said.

The Wyoming game wasn't the start of a winning streak, however. The next win, five games later, came against Cal Baptist, a NAIA conference team. Cal Poly ended with a 67-53 win and a new school record of 15 assists for sophomore guard Christina Carrillo.

The first AWC game was a loss to the Northridge Matadors, 63-56. The loss was emotional and unexpected, and the Mustangs retaliated with a win over the Matadors later in the season with a 75-49 win.

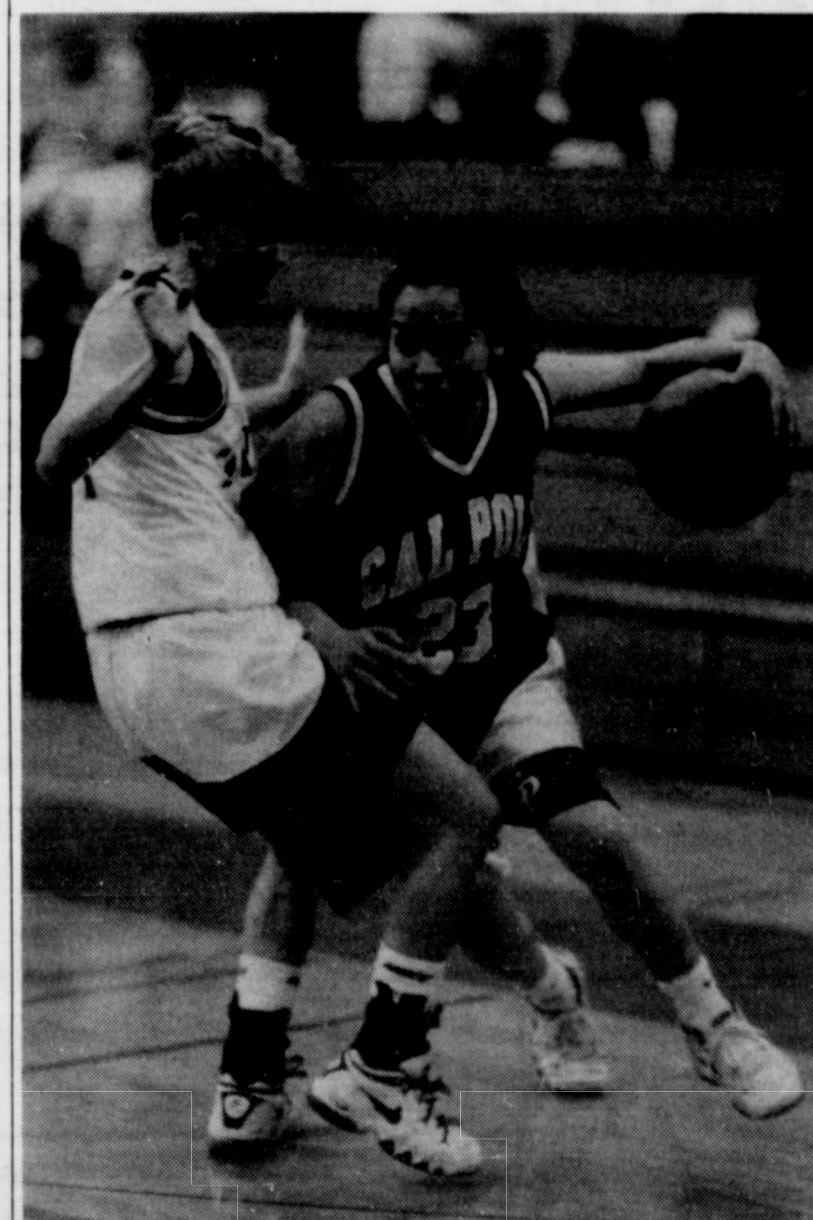
The first AWC win came in the Sacramento Hornets gym with Cal Poly shooting 53 percent to defeat the Hornets 80-69. Senior guard Kellie Hoffman shot her game-high of 23 points and grabbed nine rebounds.

Taylor said that the Sacramento game was a game where everyone pulled together for the win.

"The best highlight of the season was when we beat Sacramento State," Taylor said. "We were really pumped up and everybody played well."

The Mustangs kept hopes high, but shooting percentages low, and only picked up one more win in the season

See WOMEN page 6



Cal Poly sophomore guard Christina Carrillo set a new school record of 15 assists this season / Daily photo by Dawn Kalmar